ABSTRACT

A nitrogen concentration of fuel gas is estimated, and an amount of discharged fuel off-gas that is discharged from a fuel off-gas passage (8) to outside by a discharging mechanism (14) is controlled depending on the estimated nitrogen concentration. The nitrogen concentration, for example, can be estimated from a rate of pressure drop in the fuel off-gas passage (8) during the discharge of fuel off-gas.

[Selected drawing] FIG 1

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